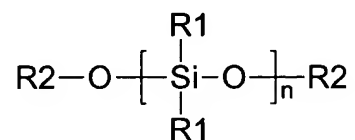


IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Currently amended) An ambient temperature curing coating composition comprising
 - a branched polysiloxane having the formula



wherein each R1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, and alkoxy groups having up to six carbon atoms, reactive glycidoxy groups, and OSi(OR3)₃ groups, wherein each R3 independently has the same meaning as R1, each R2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl and aryl groups having up to six carbon atoms, and wherein n is selected so that the molecular weight of the polysiloxanes is in the range of from 500 to about 2,000,

- a glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer, and
- a hardener,

said coating composition having a solids content of more than 70 % by weight.

12. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 11, wherein the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer is obtained by polymerisation in the polysiloxane.

13. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 11, wherein the polysiloxane is an alkoxysilyl-functional polysiloxane.

14. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 11, wherein the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer is obtained by polymerising a mixture comprising glycidyl methacrylate and butyl acrylate.

15. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 14, wherein the mixture further comprises methyl methacrylate.

16. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 15, wherein the mixture comprises 15 - 75% by weight of glycidyl methacrylate, 0 - 60% by weight of methyl methacrylate, and 30 - 85% by weight of butyl acrylate.

17. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 11, wherein the composition comprises from 45 to 75% by weight of the polysiloxane, from 20 to 45%

by weight of the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer, and from 4 to 11% by weight of the hardener, with % by weight being calculated on the basis of the weight of the coating composition.

18. (Original) The coating composition according to claim 17, wherein the composition comprises from 60 to 70% by weight of the polysiloxane, from 20 to 30% by weight of the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer, and from 7 to 11% by weight of the hardener, with % by weight being calculated on the basis of the weight of the coating composition.

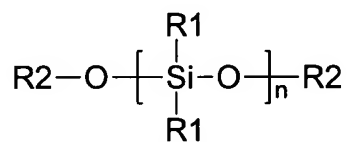
19. (Original) A method of protectively coating a substrate comprising applying the coating composition according to claim 11 as a protective coating.

20. (Original) A method of coating a substrate comprising applying to the substrate the coating composition according to claim 11 at ambient temperature.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the substrate is a ship, bridge, building, industrial plant, or oil rig.

22. (New) An ambient temperature curing coating composition comprising

- a polysiloxane having the formula



wherein each R1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, and alkoxy groups having up to six carbon atoms, reactive glycidoxy groups, and $\text{OSi}(\text{OR3})_3$ groups, wherein each R3 independently has the same meaning as R1, each R2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl and aryl groups having up to six carbon atoms, and wherein n is selected so that the molecular weight of the polysiloxanes is in the range of from 500 to less than 2,000,

- a glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer, and

- a hardener,

said coating composition having a solids content of more than 70 % by weight.

23. (New) The coating composition according to claim 22, wherein the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer is obtained by polymerisation in the polysiloxane.

24. (New) The coating composition according to claim 22, wherein the polysiloxane is an alkoxysilyl-functional polysiloxane.

25. (New) The coating composition according to claim 22, wherein the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer is obtained by polymerising a mixture comprising glycidyl methacrylate and butyl acrylate.

26. (New) The coating composition according to claim 25, wherein the mixture further comprises methyl methacrylate.

27. (New) The coating composition according to claim 26, wherein the mixture comprises 15 - 75% by weight of glycidyl methacrylate, 0 - 60% by weight of methyl methacrylate, and 30 - 85% by weight of butyl acrylate.

28. (New) The coating composition according to claim 22, wherein the composition comprises from 45 to 75% by weight of the polysiloxane, from 20 to 45% by weight of the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer, and from 4 to 11% by weight of the hardener, with % by weight being calculated on the basis of the weight of the coating composition.

29. (New) The coating composition according to claim 28, wherein the composition comprises from 60 to 70% by weight of the polysiloxane, from 20 to 30% by weight of the glycidyl-functional acrylic polymer, and from 7 to 11% by weight of the hardener, with % by weight being calculated on the basis of the weight of the coating composition.

30. (New) A method of protectively coating a substrate comprising applying the coating composition according to claim 22 as a protective coating.